

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /116 W

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R 121630Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1600

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

IAEHTP/AMEMBASSY TAIPEI 418

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12358

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, US

SUBJECT: PRC-US RELATIONS

REF: A. MOSCOW 12291; BM MOSCOW 12083

1. AT SINGAPORE RECEPTION ON AUGUST 9, PRC EMBOFF LIU KUANG-CHIH TOLD U.S. EMBOFF THAT MUTUAL EMBASSY VISITS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL OUR TWO COUNTRIES ESTABLISHED FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. WE COULD MEET AT THIRD COUNTRY FUNCTIONS BUT NOT CALL DIRECTLY. WHEN EMBOFF MENTIONED THAT AMBASSADOR STOESSEL HAD CALLED ON AMBASSADOR LIU, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE FACT, BUT DID NOT SUGGEST THAT HIS AMBASSADOR WOULD RETURN THE CALL.

2. ON SINO-U.S. RELATIONS GENERALLY, LIU COUNTERED EMBOFF'S COMMENT THAT THINGS WERE GOING ABOUT AS EXPECTED BY SAYING THAT THIS HAD BEEN TRUE AT FIRST BUT THAT PROGRESS HAD SLOWED IN RECENT
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MONTHS. I WAS NECESSARY TO GO FURTHER AND TO NORMALIZE

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

3. TO LIU'S QUESTION ON HOW PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION WOULD AFFECT U.S. RELATIONS WITH CHINA AND THE U.S.S.R, EMBOFF REPLIED THAT POLICIES DO NOT DEPEND ONLY UPON INDIVIDUALS, THEN SAID THAT WE WERE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT CONTINUITY IN PIKING AND ABOUT PREMIER CHOU'S HEALTH. HE ECHOED THE LINE ABOUT INDIVIDUALS, THEN SAID SERIOUSLY, "THE PREMIER IS AN OLD MAN. OLD MEN OFTEN HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THEIR HEALTH."

4. ON THE QUESTION OF AMBASSADOR LIU'S CONTINUED ABSENCE (REFTELS), HE SAID THAT THE AMBASSADOR SUFFERED FROM DIABETES AND WAS UNDERGOING TREATMENT IN CHINA. HE WAS NOTICEABLY VAGUE ABOUT HOW SOON THE AMBASSADOR WAS EXPECTED BACK IN MOSCOW. STOESEL

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